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Dated: August 10, 2004

Signature:

(Brenda Campbell)

RCE Filed
12. 2004
Docket No.: 246152012710
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Patent Application of:

Wilhelmus Theodorus Antonius Maria DE LAAT et al.

Application No.: 09/982,474

Art Unit: 1654

Filed: October 17, 2001

Examiner: R. Winston

For: FERMENTATIVE PRODUCTION OF
VALUABLE COMPOUNDS ON AN
INDUSTRIAL SCALE USING CHEMICALLY
DEFINED MEDIA

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
ART UNIT 1654**

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the final Office Action dated June 15, 2004, for which a shortened-two-month response is due on August 15, 2004. This response is filed within two months of the issuance of the final Office Action and therefore qualifies for expedited review. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.